



ROBINS RevUp



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Friday, April 22, 2005

Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

News you can use

Robins exceeds AFAF campaign goal

The Robins Air Force Base Air Force Assistance Fund campaign wrapped up April 15 having exceeded its goal and raising \$104,985.50, according to campaign officials.

During the six-week campaign Robins contributions added up to 115.7 percent of the base's \$90,775 goal for this year's campaign.

"Our key workers did an outstanding job this year," said Lt. Col. Mike Pierson, installation project officer for the campaign. "My hat is off to them and to all the people who contributed to this year's campaign."

The annual AFAF campaign raises money each year for the Air Force Aid Society, The Air Force Village Indigent Widow's Fund, The Air Force Enlisted Village Indigent Widow's Fund, and the General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation.

— From staff reports

Housing office explains trash pickup rules

Due to recent confusion over how residents should dispose of different kinds of waste, base officials are providing the following guidance.

Refuse, including garbage, rubbish and boxes should be in the green waste container at the curb by 7 a.m. Fridays.

When pickup day falls on a holiday, trash will be picked up the following work day.

Yard debris, including leaves, pine needles, trees, shrubs, limbs, branches and loose grass, should be placed on the curb, no farther than 3 feet from the street, in front of housing units. Tree limbs should be placed in a separate pile.

Curbside recycling may be dropped off in the parking lot of Robins Theater, using the following schedule: Monday - Forest Park, Lakeside, Pine Oak, Chiefs' Circle, Fifth Street Terrace, Cherry Drive and Club Drive; Tuesday - Crestview; Thursday - Turner Park.

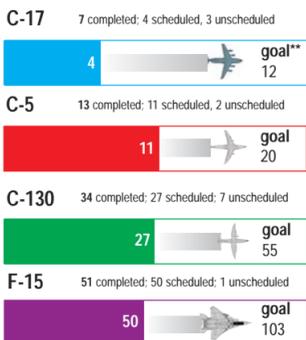
The disposal of dead animals (other than house pets), found on base, is a civil engineering responsibility.

For more information, contact 926-5820 extension 188.

— Base Housing Office

Aircraft Maintenance Output

The information below reflects Robins' progress toward maintenance goals for fiscal 2005 as of April 19.



**Goal is for scheduled maintenance on-time delivery only; unscheduled aircraft don't count toward fiscal year goals.

Source: Doug Clark Jr., depot maintenance workload analyst, 402nd Maintenance Wing

U.S. Air Force graphic by Angela Trunzo

Team wins first Roche award

By Lanorris Askew
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The Battle Management Sustainment Squadron of the 330th Command and Control Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Sustainment

Group, became the first recipient of the Dr. James G. Roche Sustainment Excellence Award during a ceremony at the Pentagon April 12.

The award recognizes the Air Force Material Command Aircraft System Program

Office supporting the fleet that demonstrates the most improved performance in sustainment for a fiscal year.

The award is named after the recently-retired secretary of the Air Force, Dr. Roche, and was presented by Air Force

Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper.

An improvement in JSTARS sustainment metrics resulting from the successful partnership between the program offices here and the electronic systems center at

Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass., along with the active duty and Guard personnel in the 116th Air Control Wing and the Northrop Grumman Corporation, made the group a

Please see **AWARD, 2A**

'There I was'



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

From left, Capt. Mike Cashman, Thomas Byrd, 1st Lt. Shawn King, Airman 1st Class Brandon Post, Danielle Cousins, Staff Sgt. Michael Garza and Senior Airman Timothy D. Montjoy will portray servicemembers from different eras in the Tattoo ceremony.

Tattoo ceremony takes Robins back in time Tuesday

By Holly L. Birchfield
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A cast of more than 20 military and civilian actors will soon take Robins back in time - celebrating the military heritage of Tattoo.

"There I was," a 90-minute ceremony, including 10 skits carrying out scenes from World War II through the Cold War era and a host of other presentations to honor the nation's military heroes, will take place at 8 p.m. Tuesday on the flightline.

Capt. Michael Cashman, an air battle

manager with the 128th Airborne Command and Control Squadron, who wrote this year's Tattoo script, said the performance brings a mixture of humor and seriousness to the recollection of military history.

"Anyone who has spent any time in the military has a funny story to tell," he said. "That's why I decided to title this year's Tattoo 'There I was,' because everyone has a story and it usually starts off with 'there I was.' There will be a lot of scenes in it that people can relate to their personal experiences."

While an upcoming deployment will

carry the 36-year-old Florida native away from the physical presence of the stage, video technology will allow him to play the part of an on-scene reporter through a pre-recorded performance.

"I'm going to set my watch so I'll know exactly what is happening on stage and I can imagine the whole performance from where I am," he said. "These guys have worked hard on this, and I wish I could be there. But this way, I can visualize it."

The ceremony's theatrical cast is just

Please see **TATTOO, 2A**

Partnership reaffirmed



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Maj. Gen. Mike Collings, Center commander, and Tom Scott, president of American Federation of Government Employees Local 987, sign partnership agreements to renew, reaffirm and update signatures reflective of current management and union leadership.

653rd CLSS deploys to Qatar, Kuwait for similar C-130 repairs

By Holly L. Birchfield
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Nine Airmen from the 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron got more than they bargained for during a recent deployment.

The group deployed to Qatar in mid-March to make a temporary repair to the vertical beam of a C-130's right main landing gear, which sustained damage during the aircraft's normal operation, and ended up forward deploying to Kuwait to make similar repairs.

Master Sgt. Brian Sondgeroth, aircraft structural maintenance craftsman and assistant team chief, said the team faced the challenge of getting the right parts in time, but the support of their squadron at home helped them overcome obstacles.

"We were scrambling for parts [for a few days]," he said. "Timing was a big issue. With Robins eight hours behind us, it took a lot of coordination to get what we needed."

Master Sgt. Ronald Bartholomew,

aircraft fuel systems mechanic and team chief, said creative thinking helped them get the job done with limited resources.

"Normally, we have a general rule that we don't leave without parts," he said. "...In this case, we took as many parts as we could. But in a few situations, we had to improvise. Sometimes, supply doesn't have what you need, and you have to use substitutes."

Working split shifts around the clock, the team had the cargo aircraft operational in a couple of days.

Capt. Tracey Smith, 745th Aircraft Maintenance Unit officer in charge in Qatar, said the 653rd CLSS team's temporary repair of the C-130 helped her unit get the aircraft one step closer to being fully mission capable.

Just as the White Knights were wrapping up the aircraft's speedy recovery in Qatar, the team received another call from Central Command for a similar permanent repair with a

Please see **REPAIRS, 2A**

Town hall meetings provide answers

Manpower personnel meets with workers to explain potential for A-76 study

By Lanorris Askew
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The 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron conference room was standing room only Wednesday as Standard Base Supply System employees gathered to hear Manpower representatives explain a new process that could possibly end in a study allowing private sector contractors to compete for their workload.

This second of three planned town hall meetings was an attempt to alleviate fears and answer any questions employees in the affected areas, which include the 78th Communication Squadron's Information Systems Flight, its audiovisual branch, the 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron's Standard Base Supply System and the 78th Civil Engineer Group paint shop, may have.

Donna Long, A-76 management analyst and lead presenter, stressed that the meetings were not A-76 study announcements.

"We are looking a long way down the road at a lot of what ifs," she said. "There is nothing set in stone at this time."

Mrs. Long, who presented detailed roadmaps or project plans for the preliminary planning phase, or P3, explained that even if an A-76 study were to occur it would be January 2006 at the very earliest.

"Please feel free to ask questions," she said. "We don't

Please see **ANSWERS, 2A**



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Donna Long, management analyst, talks with employees attending the town hall meeting April 15.

Robins 3-day forecast
Courtesy of 78th OSS/OSW



Today
Cloudy with chance of thunderstorms



Saturday
Mostly sunny



Sunday
Mostly sunny

What's inside

AFMC names Robins spouse best in command **3A**
AFMC announces annual enlisted award winners **8A**
Airmen from Robins help Habitat for Humanity build homes for two families **11A**
Doggie do's and don'ts **8B**

78th ABW vice commander retires



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Col. Bruce L. Curry, 78th Air Base Wing vice commander, was honored at a retirement ceremony Monday in Hangar One at the Museum of Aviation. Above, Colonel Curry and his wife Lynn celebrate his 27 years of serving in the Air Force.

Housing spring spruce up continues through June 15

Robins' housing residents can enhance their yards with flowers and shrubs. Vouchers, redeemable at a local nursery, will be mailed to each housing occupant. Additional vouchers will be available for pick-up in the Housing Office, Building 274. Bulk mulch is available throughout family housing on a first come, first served basis, at numerous locations:

Forest Park - Officer's Circle E (across from Holly Drive) and next to playground on Officer's Circle E

Lakeside - Cherry Drive (next to bus stop

building) and between 749B and 748 Lakeside Drive

Pine/Oak - dead end of 6th Street Circle and Centerville and Page Road between Pine and Oak streets

Crestview - Crescent Drive across from Pool Drive and corner of Sergeants Drive and Hawkinsville Street

Turner Park - Corner of Oglethorpe and Wimberly

— From staff reports

TATTOO

Continued from 1A

as excited about the upcoming show.

Marilea Butler, an F-15 scheduler for the 402nd Maintenance Wing, who plays the role of a colonel's wife, said her performance gives her a chance to do one of the things she loves the most - act.

"I'm having a ball with this," she said. "I think the script is very funny, and we're having a lot of fun [with it] in rehearsal....It's sure to be a performance that keeps people entertained, while bringing history into today."

Second Lt. Adam Harner, an aircraft engine test equipment system engineer for the 542nd Combat Sustainment Wing, who will play Bob Hope in multiple scenes, said while it will be a challenge to capture the spirit of the man known for his support of the troops, it's a role he looks forward to playing.

"I'm very excited about being a part of the ceremony," he said. "It's intimidating trying to convey to the audience that this is who I am. Portraying him is quite a feat."

Studying his character's personality and mannerisms has allowed the 28-year-old lieu-

What to know

Tattoo is a ceremony that offers skits and other ceremonial presentations to celebrate a military heritage that spans more than 300 years. The 2005 Tattoo ceremony, themed 'There I was,' will take place Tuesday, at 8 p.m. on the flightline in the area adjacent to Base Operations or Building 110 if inclement weather is present. The event is open to all military, retired military, civilian employees and their families, as well as invited guests from the community. Admission is free. For more information, visit the Robins home page at www.robins.af.mil and click the Tattoo ceremony link or contact Maj. Derrick Richardson at 327-7337 or 2nd Lt. Shay Ameri at 327-7333.

tenant, who is participating in Tattoo for the first time, to reconnect with his theatrical side.

"I haven't been able to do a show of any type in a number of years," he said. "This will be a good chance to get back into things."

In addition to theatrical performances, the ceremony will include a flag-folding and retreat ceremony honoring special guests retired Lt. Col.

Charles Dryden, an original Tuskegee Airman, and retired Capt. Bill Robinson, the longest held enlisted prisoner of war in American history.

The historical ceremony will feature performances by the Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., and Gunter Annex Saber Drill Team and the Air Force Reserve Command Band.

Second Lt. Shay Ameri, executive officer for the 78th Mission Support Group commander, who serves as this year's Tattoo deputy project manager, said the ceremony shows respect for those who contributed so much to military history.

"It's a way to pay homage to those who have gone before us," she said. "Those people who have allowed us to be here, living in a free nation."

Maj. Derrick Richardson, the Military Personnel Flight commander, who serves as this year's Tattoo project manager, said performances combined with the static display of several aircraft from history and those stationed at Robins will make for a Tattoo to remember.

"I think we've found a balance here, with something that shows military precision, humor and finally, a serious remembrance of why we're here and what we've accomplished."

AWARD

Continued from 1A

shoo-in.

David LaRochelle, E-8C systems group program director at Hanscom, said the award shows a commitment to excellence.

"It's not every day that you get an award from the chief of staff of the Air Force, so this one puts us up there in the limelight," he said. "It's flattering, but I think it's recognition of the efforts of what we call 'the partnership'."

Mr. LaRochelle said the award also reflects the pride people take in doing their jobs.

"We know what we're doing is for the war fighter and that's

why people take pride in what they do and the award reflects that," he said.

Brig. Gen. Tom Lynn, 116th ACW commander, said the award is reflective of all of the outstanding professionals associated with the Joint STARS program.

"The Joint STARS team is comprised of all elements of the JSTARS program: wing, depot, system program office and contractor," he said. "There is great interaction and communication throughout every facet of the team."

Thomas Mackey, director of Joint STARS support programs for Northrop Grumman Corp., agreed.

"It's great to be a part of this

winning team," he said. "It's certainly an indication of the tremendous amount of effort that both we and the government have put into our day-to-day activities to support the aircraft and the military folks who are flying it both here, in the states and overseas."

General Lynn said many people made the award possible, and he couldn't forget his maintenance personnel.

"From a wing commander perspective, I would like to acknowledge the incredible aircraft maintenance personnel of the 116th Air Control Wing," he said.

"Their dedication and expertise contributed significantly to this prestigious award."

ANSWERS

Continued from 1A

want anyone to leave these meetings unsettled."

Leadership from each organization as well as Civilian Personnel representatives were also present.

Col. Silvia Anderson, 78th Mission Support Group commander, addressed the 78th Communication Squadron's Information Systems Flight and its audiovisual branch during the first meeting April 15.

"This process is in the very early stages right now and what the result and impact will be we don't know," she said. "I encourage you to be prepared for whatever the outcome may be, but keep things in perspective and don't stress yourselves out."

Mrs. Long echoed those sentiments assuring the audience that they would not be kept in the dark about results.

"We will convene another town hall meeting to let you all know what the results are either way," she said.

Lt. Col. Tom Schneider, 78th LRS commander, told his group that there's no reason to panic.

"If we have to re-compete we're going to put our best people on it and our goal is to win," he said.

David Durham was involved in the organiza-

tion's first study.

"A-76 has been around since the 1950s," he said. "It's nothing new to the Department of Defense or to this organization. We're not taking this lightly, but we have the knowledge and the experience and we're ready to do what we have to in order to keep these positions in government."

The 78th LRS distribution flight chief said he thinks the town hall meeting was educational for the organization.

Rickayla Jackson, a supply technician in the 78th LRS agreed.

"This is my first time being involved in the Most Efficient Organization and I really don't know a lot about MEO and A-76 planning," she said. "The town hall meeting gave me some insight on what a MEO was all about, so it was definitely worthwhile."

Lt. Col. Tim D. Hartje, 78th Communications Squadron commander, said the town hall format is a great forum in which to introduce P3.

"This is a very important step in this process," he said of the April 15 meeting. "This is the step for us to learn together and to understand the process we will be marching through. "This was exactly what we wanted to get out of this - open lines of communication."

The 78th CEG paint shop employee meeting is scheduled for Thursday in the 78th CEG Conference Room in Building 1555.

REPAIRS

Continued from 1A

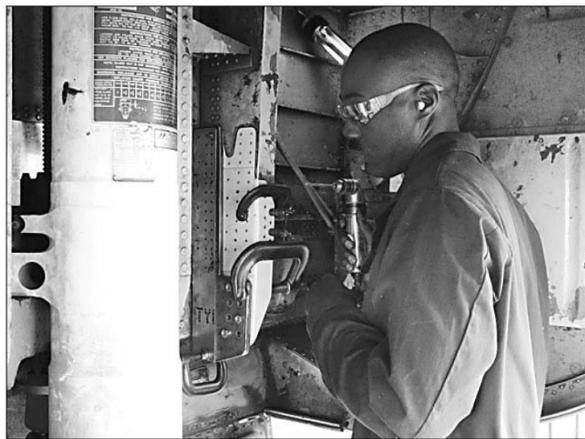
unit in Kuwait.

"This was a better fix for us," Sergeant Bartholomew said. "Our team had really gelled at that point. We're not a normal team that goes out all the time. But we came together and completed this job in 36 hours."

With the use of a hangar provided by the Japanese Air Force, who were occupying the area at the time, the crew was able to safely make repairs to the C-130's landing gear and put it back in service, Sergeant Bartholomew said.

"They really needed that aircraft back," he said. "By giving them the aircraft in a short amount of time, they were able to fly the aircraft the following day. By the time we left, they had flown four missions."

Lt. Col. David Brown, deputy commander of the 386th Expeditionary Maintenance Group, said he was grateful for the group's hard work.



Submitted photo

Staff Sgt. Wali A. Williams works on a landing gear vertical beam to allow the aircraft to be able to fly out of theater.

"The 653rd CLSS team did a fantastic job," he said. "They had the aircraft prepped, repaired and returned to service in minimum time. Their efforts ensured we had the aircraft back in the fight ahead of schedule."

Tech. Sgt. Joseph Marquardt, a 653rd CLSS depot maintenance craftsman on the team, said it was a good feeling to help

fellow Airmen serving the war-fighting mission around the world.

"I was glad to be able to help out," he said. "I felt a little guilty though, because we were only there about three weeks, whereas these guys are there for about four to eight months. Anything I could do to make their job a little easier is a pleasure for me."

Air Force Materiel Command names Robins spouse best in command

By Chrissy Zdrakas
chris.zdrakas@robins.af.mil

A woman who set aside her own anxiety about her husband's deployment to help spouses who shared her emotions has been selected 2004 Air Force Materiel Command Spouse of the Year.

Suzanne M. Killkelley, whose countless acts of kindness have made her name synonymous with Air Force family, is the second consecutive Robins spouse to hold the title. The 2003 winner, Tammie Bocook, also won at the Air Force level.

Mrs. Killkelley is the wife of Tech. Sgt. Andre Killkelley, who returned April 2 from Iraq with his 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron team.

She volunteered for the challenge of becoming the squadron's key spouse at a time when squadron members were leaving for combat convoy duty on some of Iraq's most dangerous roads.

Remarkable woman, remarkable attitude

Lt. Col. Tom Schneider, squadron commander, said she was the right person for the job.

"She worked closely with the leadership in the flight, and did an exceptional job, always with a great attitude," he said.

Because she spoke directly with spouses helping with their questions and needs, she became what Colonel Schneider said was his conduit and extension of his eyes into the fabric of the organization.

One of those on the receiving end of Mrs. Killkelley's concern was Sandy Muncy, wife of Master Sgt. James Muncy.

A unique person

"Suz is a very unique person and has done so many things for me and a lot of people," she said. "It's the little things that mean the most, the things that other people wouldn't think of - dropping by, making phone calls.

"Suz would drive me around at 2 or 3 a.m. to help me look for my dogs. It would be hard to find anyone as genuine and reliable, so willing to give of herself. I just can't say enough about her."

For the recipient of the honor and praise, the news hasn't quite hit home yet.

"I don't feel like I deserve it," Mrs. Killkelley said. "I just do what I normally do, what I did before I had the key spouse title."

She said in an unofficial status, she has been sharing her time and experience with other spouses since she and her husband moved into base housing.

Base housing like a pot luck dinner

"Living in base housing is basically like a pot luck dinner," she said. "You never know what you are going to get. I try to become extended family to our neighbors. I am really a big family person, and I couldn't ask for better next door neighbors."

Her achievements cover a typewritten page filled with support activities - helping to complete a work area renovation project; contacting more than 22 spouses weekly to help resolve financial problems, household repairs, travel and lawn care issues. She organized monthly luncheons for spouses of deployed members, published an electronic newsletter filled with information from the front and provided the kind of positive information about the mission there that served to comfort others.

She helped organize a spouse and single airman's Thanksgiving Day celebration; served as a Cub Scout leader; supported a church-sponsored "Meals on Wheels" program and worked in a local soup kitchen.

An amazing woman

"She is an amazing woman, an incredible woman who is always changing, always



U.S. Air Force file photo by Sue Sapp
Suzanne M. Killkelley, right, welcomes home her husband, Tech. Sgt. Andre Killkelley, recently. Mrs. Killkelley has been selected 2004 Air Force Materiel Command Spouse of the Year.

improving," Sergeant Killkelley said.

She also had a big surprise for him for his homecoming - she had dropped 60 pounds exercising and dieting while he was away. Her husband knew she was losing weight, but hadn't seen photos.

His reaction: "You look hot!" At that point, she said, she knew that all she had gone through was worth it.

The Killkelleys were married in 1998 and "we are living happily ever after," she said. They have two children, Matthew, 14; and Katie, 2.

"We both decided when we got married, because I had Matthew, that even though we were a ready made family, as a couple we would always take time out for us first," she said, "because if we are happy, our children will be happy. You need a break; you have to energize yourselves."

Following that recipe for happiness, the Killkelleys spent a relaxing weekend in the Georgia mountains when he returned from Iraq.

Sharing unit pride



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

The 19th Air Refueling Group and Robins Top 3 Association decorated a wall at the Wynn Dining Facility with emblems representing their units. A plaque was placed on the wall dedicating it to all Black Knights by the Top 3. The Black Knights and Shirley Sexton, Wynn Dining Facility manager, hope this will encourage other units to add their unit emblems to the dining room's other walls. From left, Master Sgt. Tony Ennis, Master Sgt. Carmen T. Smith, Ms. Sexton, Senior Master Sgt. Robby Gregory, Master Sgt. Robert Bullard and Master Sgt. David Knapp stand in front of the decorated dining room wall.

Sergeant trys to shine light on tragedy

By Master Sgt. Kimberly Spencer
59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFP) – I tell myself I won't cry this time.

It's been almost six years since my brother was locked up for vehicular manslaughter. As I sit and wait for him to be released into the visiting area, I remind myself, I will be strong, I will not cry this time.

I'm thankful that he somehow survived the wreck he caused. I deal with the guilt that comes when I think of the mother and daughter in the other car who didn't.

For my mother and stepfather the emotional and financial tolls have been devastating. Although he is one of six children, he is my mother's only son.

For my sisters and me, it has been an emotional roller coaster. Some of us have forgiven him and support him to the best of our ability. Others choose to pretend he no longer exists.

I try to visit him at least once a month. The 12-hour drive gives me time to think.

I think about how this event has devastated so many lives; how that split-second decision, to get behind the wheel, has turned into a lifetime of pain.

In his intoxicated state, my brother

never realized he had forgotten to put his lights on as he pulled out into the path of a car holding a family of five. They didn't see him until it was too late.

T.C. finally arrives and checks in with the guards. This is when I feel the happiest, finally getting to see my baby brother again. I hug him briefly as a meaty-looking guard frowns.

We sit across the table from one another and chat. We've learned to keep it light, talking about something interesting he has read, or how work is going for me. I try to update him on family events without dwelling on the things he is missing too much.

Before I know it, the guard is giving

us the five-minute warning. This is where it gets tough for me. I hug him hard, holding on despite another frown from the meaty guard. Inevitably, he pulls away and heads for the door back to his cell. As he turns to look at me one last time, and I see the sadness in his eyes, I feel the tears melting my resolve.

Slowly I make my way back to the outside, through the stale air, past the clanking metal doors running on molasses.

As I exit the last door, I give up and let the tears fall.

Next time I will be strong, I tell myself. I won't cry – next time.

I've got 54 years to see if I can do it.

No such thing as a free ride?

Yes there is. Members of the Robins chapter of Airmen Against Drunk Driving provide free, anonymous rides. To get a ride, call 335-5218, 335-5236 or 335-5238.

Three wingmen's actions make impression on co-worker

By Richard Hebblethwaite

Air Force Materiel Command Capabilities Integration Directorate

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMCS) – I have a Wingman success story to share. Over the last few months, the briefings and e-mails explaining how important it is that we all have a wingman have hit home for me.

A few weeks ago, my wingman helped me survive a life-threatening illness.

On Feb. 2, I called 911

and an ambulance took me to the hospital emergency room. The physicians treated me for dehydration, but they could not keep me for observation because beds were limited.

The next day, as I was getting ready for work, I stepped outside to get my newspaper, but instead I stepped in the "Twilight Zone." The world I saw was not its usual colors; everything was in black and white. I knew I was in trouble, but I did not think it was too serious.

I called my wife, who recently received a promotion and moved to New

Mexico. I told her I would feel silly calling 911 again, but she insisted I call someone.

"Maybe someone from work?"

"Yes," she said. "You are in trouble so call someone from work."

I am fortunate that I have more than one wingman. Last year, I had an opportunity to work in the front office of the Capabilities Integration Directorate at AFMC headquarters. Maj. Wallace L. Addison, executive officer, and Master Sgt. Leon H. Walburn, executive NCO, showed me the ins and

outs of that level of management and the associated responsibilities. When I called Major Addison and explained my medical situation, he told me to stay put, remain calm and that help was coming.

Within 10 minutes, Sergeant Walburn was at my home and I was on my way to the ER. He kept my spirits up while batteries of tests were being run. Additionally, he remained in communication with my wife and Major Addison. He was there the entire time reassuring me that everything was okay, even as I was moved to the

intensive care unit.

I was so dehydrated, and my entire body chemistry so out of sorts, that I needed an intravenous drip of about 15 bags of saline solution to feel better.

The ICU coordinator told me that many patients in my condition have major strokes or heart attacks. He wanted to know what inspires me to keep physically fit. I told him I had renewed my YMCA membership after hearing from Gen. Greg Martin, AFMC commander, during a Commander's Call how many condolence letters he signs to families of deceased

military and civilian Airmen.

I try to eat a balanced diet; and to help with stress, I try to take a walk at lunchtime as often as I can during the week with Wingman number three, Charles Nickelman, a co-worker and friend. A simple 30-minute walk at lunch contributed, I believe, to saving my life.

I hope I do not have to go through another trial like this one, but if I do, I am fortunate to work in an organization with colleagues such as Major Addison, Master Sgt. Walburn and Mr. Nickelman. I wish everyone could have the Wingmen I do.

Confessions of 'one of those': TV? check. VCR? check. Remote control? check

By Maj. Dani Johnson
5th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. (AFP) – I have to admit it. It's tough to say out in the open, but I'm one of those – a reality TV addict. I must watch each week, and if I'm out of town, most of the ones I watch are taped so I don't miss a thing.

I'm so bad that on a recent temporary duty, when I realized that I had only taped one of my shows for an hour and it was going to run two hours, I actually talked a friend through reprogramming my VCR so

I didn't miss a single minute.

How can an educated, intelligent Air Force officer such as me succumb to such a level? I usually use the excuse that when I returned from my overseas assignment, I was behind in all the series so I started watching. Actually, while that is somewhat true, honestly, I like the idea of "normal" people achieving a goal and the drama of watching what people do to each other in stressful situations. It's a study in human behavior to me.

Honestly, it's not about who wins the money for me, but how they

relate with each other. I have the ones I hate and the ones I root for no matter what. I've also learned some things from watching which can help me be a better leader.

As Airmen, we can learn from TV's latest fad. Each day is a race, a challenge. How we act determines whether we will be around for one more day and stay a part of the best Air Force in the world or take the ultimate fall and be voted off or the last one to arrive because we didn't apply what we knew.

First, perseverance. Whether it's "Amazing Race," "Survivor" or

"American Idol," those who succeed are the ones who bounce back the next episode after having a completely rotten previous episode and barely make it to the next round.

Second, how would I react or should one react in the situation? It could be walking across a suspension bridge in a foreign country, tackling a team puzzle or receiving the harshest criticism possible. I determine what would be the best avenue for me if I was in the situation. This is important because I'm learning to put myself in another person's shoes and think about the

pros and cons of the situation.

Lastly, not every day is going to be great, but if you are with your loved ones, teammates or know what you are doing will achieve your final goal or dream, it's worth it. I'm constantly amazed with the support people give each other in extreme situations. I'm also amazed at the lack of support many times. Stressful situations tell you who you can depend on. It reminds you of the importance of creating strong relations with people.

Yes, I'm a reality TV addict, but I can't talk anymore, one of my shows is on.

Commander's Action Line

Col. Greg Patterson
Commander,
78th Air Base Wing



Action Line is an open door program for Robins Air Force Base personnel to ask questions, make suggestions or give kudos to make Robins a better place to work and live.

Please remember that the most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the organization responsible. This gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve their processes.

To contact the Action Line, call 926-2886 day or night, or for quickest response e-mail to one of the following addresses: If sending from a military e-

mail system select, Robins Commanders Action Line from the Global Address List. If sending from a commercial e-mail account (AOL, AT+T, CompuServe, Earthlink, etc.), use action.line@robins.af.mil.

Readers can also access Action Line by visiting the Robins AFB homepage at <https://www.mil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm>. Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response.

Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Rev-Up. Anonymous Action Lines will not be processed.

Security Forces.....	327-3445
Services Division.....	926-5491
EEO Office.....	926-2131
MEO.....	926-6608
Employee Relations.....	926-5802
Military Pay.....	926-3777
IDEA.....	926-2536
Base hospital.....	327-7850
Civil engineering.....	926-5657
Public Affairs.....	926-2137
Safety Office.....	926-6271
Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline.....	926-2393
Housing Office.....	926-3776

Parking tickets at unmarked spaces

I work in Building 300, and there is a huge parking lot on the south side of the building that has a tree. For years two parking spots on either side of the tree have been open for parking. Recently tickets have been issued to people for parking there. The lot is always full, and you're

fortunate to find an open spot right under the tree in what looks like a regular parking spot. We have been instructed to stay off of the grass at the end of the parking lot, and people follow the law by not parking there. The problem is the slots are not marked, and people are getting ticketed on a daily basis. The only way you find out you're not supposed to park there is by get-

ting a ticket. This is not good policy. Either some type of mass notification should be put out or at least label the spots as "no parking".

Commander's reply: Thank you for your concern for parking at Robins. Vehicles are restricted to parking within designated marked parking spaces on base. The locations directly

north and south of the tree in the Building 300 parking lot are not marked as designated parking spaces. In addition, the area in question is not large enough to accommodate a standard parking space. In an effort to alleviate the confusion, a work order has been submitted to have the area in question striped over with white lines.

Remember to slow down

There have been

143

speeding tickets issued calendar year to date.

How the points add up

Accumulating 12 traffic violation points within a year may cause drivers to lose base driving privileges for up to 6 months. Speeding violation points are based on the number of miles over the posted speed limit.

10 miles =	3 points
11 - 15 miles =	4 points
16 - 20 miles =	5 points
21+ miles =	6 points

Source: AFI 31-204



Airmen Against Drunk Drivers is a 24-hour-service that provides rides to those who have consumed alcohol and need transportation home.

The program is run by volunteers from across base, and those who use the service aren't subject to adverse action.

To request a ride, call: 335-5218, 335-5238 and 335-5236.

Best metro format newspaper in the Air Force 2003, 2004 and Best metro format newspaper in Air Force Materiel Command 2002, 2003, 2004



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U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Kevin J. Shanahan retrieves an interface test adapter from the shuttle storage system. He is helping oversee the installation of the storage systems that will free space for more workstations.

Parts storage on the 'rise' in electronics

By Lisa Mathews

lisa.mathews@robins.af.mil

What do you do when you run out of floor space for storage? If you work in the 402nd Electronics Maintenance Group, you look up.

Jim Bon and Kevin J. Shanahan, facilities and production engineers supporting the F-15 avionics squadron, are overseeing the installation of shuttle storage systems that take up space vertically, freeing up space for the installation of

more workstations.

The storage shuttles take up about 80 square feet of floor space rather than the 400 square feet of floor space it takes to store the same amount of items in single roll-around cabinets.

"The objectives include reclaiming floor space for new test stations and tracking our test equipment more efficiently," Mr. Bon said.

"The shuttle can be used to store, track and inventory a variety of items," Mr. Shanahan said.

Work in process parts, test adapters, spare parts, and test equipment can also be stored in the shuttle. Security can be maintained by assigning passwords to restrict access to authorized personnel.

The storage shuttles also offer significant improvements in maintaining inventory accuracy.

In an environment where there is high-volume activity, inventory fluctuates rapidly. Manual records are difficult, if not impossible, to control. Annual inventories may require

up to eight weeks to accomplish, and often are out of date by the time a manual count has been completed, Mr. Bon said.

With the new shuttle system, bar codes are swiped when parts are removed, automatically updating the inventory.

The new system will also make locating a needed part a faster, simpler task. Mr. Shanahan said that, a part can be located in minutes within the new shuttles as opposed to the hours it might take if the part is stored in a warehouse.

Truck driver volunteers time, talents

By Holly L. Birchfield

holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

Saying "thank you" to military members for their sacrifice in service isn't enough for Jerry Whidby.

Mr. Whidby, a truck driver for an Eatonton, Ga.-based company, became inspired to assist military families after listening to a nationally syndicated radio show.

He said helping the families with household chores like lawn work or electrical repairs is the least he could do for those who do so much for our country.

"If they need someone to do physical labor around the yard or if they have chores that need to be done, I'm more than willing to help them," he said. "I want them to know that I care about what they're doing for our country. Their service is appreciated."

Tech. Sgt. Mike Bullard, who works in the Family Support Center, was recently contacted by Mr. Whidby, and said his efforts to help those in the military community are greatly appreciated.

"I think it's very commendable and very patriotic that someone would take time to help these people and show their appreciation for what our servicemembers are doing," he said. "It helps us in our efforts to help the Robins military families get what they need."

Sergeant Bullard said the Family Support Center welcomes those who wish to volunteer to support the military through the Family Support Center's volunteer program, which provides people information on how they can volunteer the third Tuesday of each month.

What to know

For assistance with miscellaneous household repairs and chores, call Jerry Whidby at (706) 485-1063 or (706) 484-2727. For more information on learning how you can volunteer to help military families, contact the Family Support Center at 926-1256 or 926-3453.

Reminder for Tricare for Life beneficiaries

As of June 1, SSA will stop issuing special enrollment waivers. Beneficiaries who this applies to should ensure they take advantage of this no penalty enrollment period.

Those who fail to register will see a 10 percent increase per year penalty, as well as possibly having Tricare benefits denied if they fail to obtain Medicare Part B.

The premium for this year is \$78.20, and it's anticipated that the cost will rise to \$89.20 in 2006.

For more information, visit www.tricare.osd.mil.

— From staff reports



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Elaine Williams reads to Amber Thomason and Jamya Houston in the 2-year-old room at the Child Development Center East. Mrs. Williams has been with the CDC for six years.

Child Development Center worker helps children at Robins learn, grow

By Holly L. Birchfield

holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

Once her children got older, Elaine Williams thought her days of chasing toddlers were over, but working at the Child Development Center has given her a whole new perspective.

Mrs. Williams, is one of three program technicians at the Child Development Center East who develops activities and provides a safe learning environment for 14 two-year-olds whose parents work at Robins.

The 42-year-old mother of three said her job allows her to spend time taking care of what's closest to her heart - children.

"I love everything about this job," she said. "It's a challenge, every day, dealing with the different personalities and attitudes of the children. But being a parent has given me great experience, which helps in this job."

Program technicians like Mrs. Williams attend workshops and on-the-job training to keep up with the latest methods in childcare.

From ensuring children who attend the center are meeting developmental goals to helping reinforce parents' efforts to toilet train their children, Mrs. Williams said her job keeps her on her toes.

"We observe the children and see what areas they need work in, based on their individual skill level and where they are developmentally," she said. "We plan activities to teach them about themselves, about their feelings, about others, about communication and moving and doing things."

Even though some may see the Arkansas native's job as that of a typical baby-sitter, Mrs.

What to know

The Child Development Center provides care for infants and children, six weeks through age 5, of Robins' military, civilian and contract work force from 6:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday - Friday. For more information, contact the CDC East in Building 943 at 926-5805 or the CDC West in Building 946 at 926-3080.

Williams, who has been with the CDC for six years, said it's much more.

"We're here to help the children learn and encourage them (to grow)," she said. "We try to help them so that when they (get old enough to) go to pre-kindergarten, they'll be prepared."

Mrs. Williams said she and others at the CDC strive every day to make the center a place where kids and their parents feel comfortable.

"In this environment, parents can feel that their children are in a safe environment, so they can go to work and do their parts of the mission," she said.

Pam Martinez, director of the CDC East, said the center's cozy atmosphere helps the children, as well as the staff, feel at home.

"We're here to support the troops and civilians that work at Robins," she said. "We're here to make sure they know when they go to work, that their children are safe and we're taking good care of them."

Mrs. Williams said she thinks of Robins as a family.

"I think of us at Robins as one big family," she said. "Just like in a family, everyone has his or her own role. But it's important that we all work together to accomplish the mission, just like everyone in the family works together to take care of each other."

AFMC announces annual enlisted award winners

By Kathleen A.K. Lopez

Air Force Materiel Command
Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFMNS) – A week spent honoring Air Force Materiel Command's top enlisted professionals culminated April 8 with an awards ceremony at the National Museum of the United States Air Force, naming the command's very best Airman, Noncommissioned Officer, Senior Noncommissioned Officer and First Sergeant for 2005.

Staff Sgt. Sean D. Belding, Master Sgt. Casey P. Kaldenberg, Senior Master Sgt. Gean D. Alston and Master Sgt. Rita F. Felton were selected from a group of 40 Airmen and NCOs from throughout AFMC.

They were cheered on by nearly 300 people in attendance, led by ceremony host Gen. Gregory S. Martin, AFMC commander, along with Chief Master Sgt. Jonathan E. Hake, AFMC command chief master sergeant, and retired Chief Master Sgt. Paul W. Airey, the first chief master sergeant of the Air Force.

Additionally, commanders and directors of centers, labs, wings, squadrons and groups throughout the command were cheering, as well as the winners' fellow nominees.

"When you look at our military's ability to fight and the weapons and technology warfighters take to the battlefield, you can take pride in knowing you've made that happen," General Martin said. "You are truly the heart and soul of our Air Force and the greatest enlisted corps in the world."

The command's "Top Four" will go on to represent AFMC in the United States Air Force 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year and First Sergeant of the Year competitions, said Senior Master Sgt. Latonia L. Hulse, AFMC command chief executive assistant.

The winners:
Sergeant Belding, 653rd



Staff Sgt. Sean D. Belding was named AFMC's 2005 Airman of the Year.

Combat Logistics Support Squadron, Robins Air Force Base, Ga., is AFMC's Airman of the Year.

He knows his aircraft, which include the F-15, C-5, C-130, C-141, H-53 and HU-16. He knows how to dismantle, rebuild and replace their parts.

While doing so, he manages to ensure safety for the pilots flying those aircraft, as well as save the Air Force millions of dollars.

"It is such an honor to be selected as AFMC Airman of the Year," said Sergeant Belding. "I was shocked to win because the competition was so stiff. All of the other nominees were great – perfect examples of what today's Airmen should be."

"I'm very proud to be chosen to represent AFMC at the Air Force level," he added. "I couldn't have done it without support from co-workers, supervisors, and, most importantly, my family."

Sergeant Kaldenberg, 66th Security Forces Squadron, Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass., is AFMC's NCO of the Year.

Sergeant Alston, 96th SFS, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., is AFMC's Senior NCO of the Year.

Sergeant Felton, Cryptologic Systems Group, Electronic Systems Center associate unit at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, is AFMC's First Sergeant of the Year.

Tubes help workers get in shape



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

The Health and Wellness Center and Fitness Center distributed 'Gym in a Bag' kits to civilian employees. The bag contains a Versa-Tube, effective for performing strength and fitness exercises, and a Versa-O, effective for shaping legs and improving overall upper and lower body strength. Additionally, the kit contains exercise instructions for each type of tubing and a work-out log to track progress. The kits will also be available Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Base Restaurant. Above, Michael Finney, gate guard, gets instructions on using the 'Gym in a Bag' Tuesday.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp



Above, Col. Page McNall, 78th Dental Squadron commander, signs the proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month at the Houston County annex. Houston County government representatives also signed the proclamation at the April 8 event. Top, Robins Elementary School chorus members perform at the ceremony. Left, sixth-graders Stephanie Booker and Victoria Trevino place pinwheels on the lawn in front of the county annex. The event's attendees helped place 480 pinwheels, representing the number of substantiated child abuse and neglect cases in Houston County in 2004.

Policy offers confidentiality to sexual-assault victims

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — A new Department of Defense policy allows sexual-assault victims to confidentially report crimes against them.

The policy allows victims of sexual assault to seek care under restricted reporting procedures, without triggering an investigation or having their name, or the name of their assailant reported up through their chain of command.

Under the new policy, victims will be able to talk with the sexual assault response coordinator, a victim advocate or cer-

tain medics. In the past, only chaplains could provide confidentiality.

This ensures victims of sexual assault get the medical care, counseling and victim advocacy they need following a sexual assault, even if they are not ready to deal with the investigative and legal aspects of reporting a crime, officials said.

"As we implement this policy, training is critical ... for commanders, supervisors, first responders and the entire force," said Charlene Bradley, the Air Force's Sexual Assault Task Force leader. "Everyone must understand the two avenues for reporting -- restricted and unrestricted -- and the

importance of each to the victim and the mission."

Many times, victims of sexual assault are not immediately ready to report what happened to them, officials said. There are perceived and real barriers to reporting that exist in society and the military -- chief among those being the perceived lack of privacy and confidentiality.

"When you deal with military victims, there are many things they consider before reporting," she said. "People are proud of being in the military, and one of the perceptions is that if the commander knows you have been sexually assaulted, he or she may think your effectiveness is reduced by that

experience."

Airmen at their home station might fear reporting a sexual assault will lead co-workers, a supervisor or commander to think differently about them or even question their behavior, Ms. Bradley said. While deployed or in training, they also fear being sent home and missing out on the opportunity to complete their mission.

While the names of sexual-assault victims will be withheld from commanders under the new restricted reporting procedure, the fact a sexual assault has occurred will be provided to commanders to assist them to assess the climate and increase prevention efforts.

Take your children to work set for Thursday

The Ms. Foundation for Women will celebrate "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day" Thursday.

Launched in April 2003, this celebration serves to broaden the discussion about the competing challenges of work and family. To achieve their full potential, whether it's in the home, workplace or community, girls and boys must be encouraged to participate fully in family, work, and community activities.

Civilian employees may be allowed to participate in the program, workload permitting. Some areas, however, may not be suitable for children due to safety concerns. Individual organizations are responsible for identifying those areas not suitable for this event.

Employees who wish to participate must obtain approval from their immediate supervisor. If you have questions, you may contact your servicing Employee Relations Specialist, at 926-5802 or 926-0677.

— From staff reports

Airmen from Robins help Habitat for Humanity build homes for two low income families

By Holly L. Birchfield
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

Airmen from Robins are sweating, swinging hammers and sawing wood to help a couple of families in the local community.

About 10 people from the 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron, the 19th Maintenance Squadron, 116th Air Control Wing and the 413th Flight Test Group began helping Houston County Habitat for Humanity build homes for two families in the local community in August.

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit Christian organization dedicated to building houses for low income families.

Tech. Sgt. Marco Reyes, with the 653rd CLSS, is one of the people dedicating about 10 hours each Saturday to the project.

"I grew up in the streets of California," he said. "I know what it's like to grow up in poverty. When I became a homeowner through the Air Force, it showed me how something like this makes a big difference in people's quality of life."

Tech. Sgt. Sean Dolney, also with the 653rd, serves on the Houston County Habitat for Humanity's board of directors and said he gets a great deal of satisfaction from the project.

"I like what Habitat for Humanity is about - providing for people," he said. "I like doing little projects around my house, and this gives me a chance to use my skills to help others."

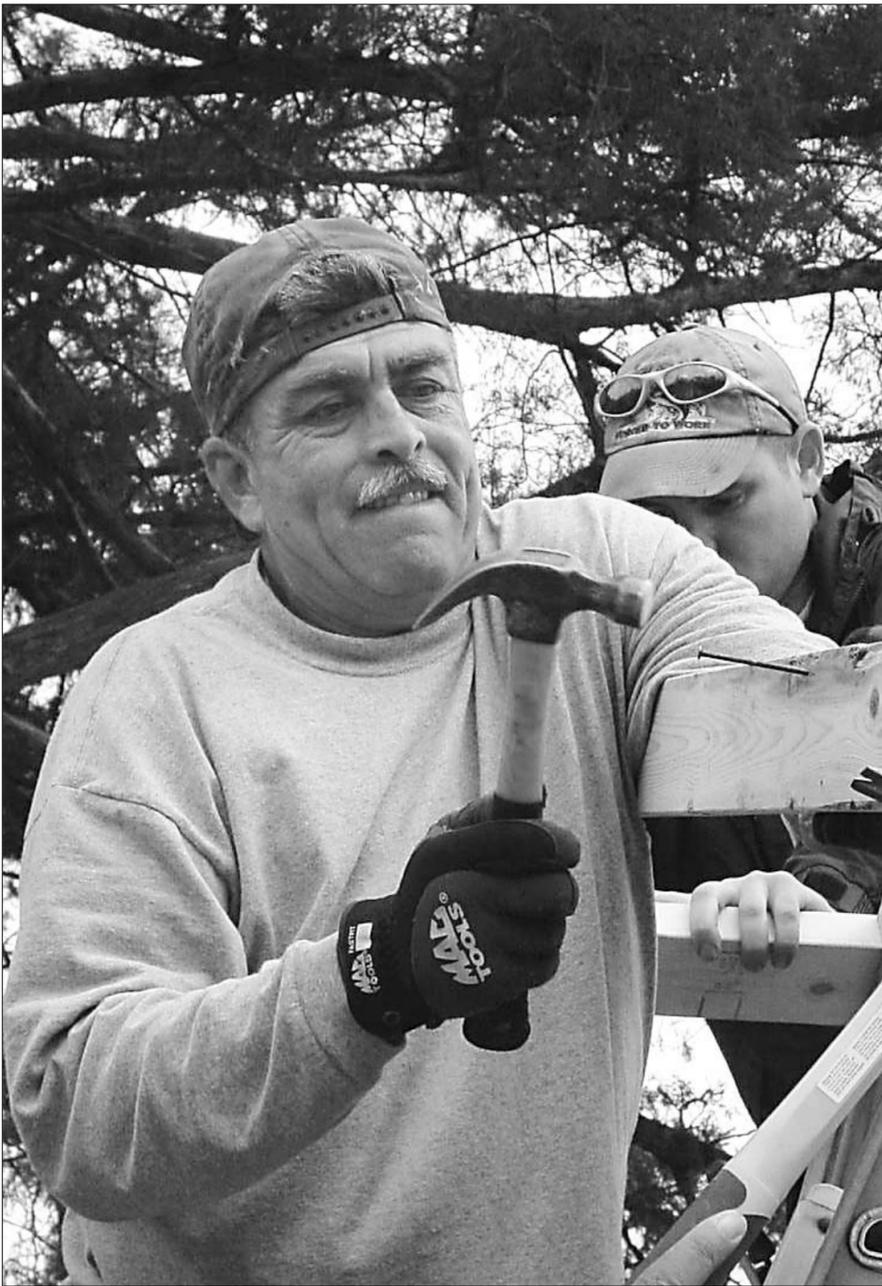
Senior Master Sgt. Daniel Alaniz, from the 19th MXS, said helping build the homes is just as exciting for him as it is for the families.

"It's very rewarding seeing these families get these homes," he said. "When the house is dedicated and the families get the keys, it's very emotional for everyone."

John Sillers, Houston County Habitat for Humanity

"I know what it's like to grow up in poverty. When I became a homeowner through the Air Force, it showed me how something like this makes a big difference in people's quality of life."

TECH. SGT. MARCO REYES
653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron

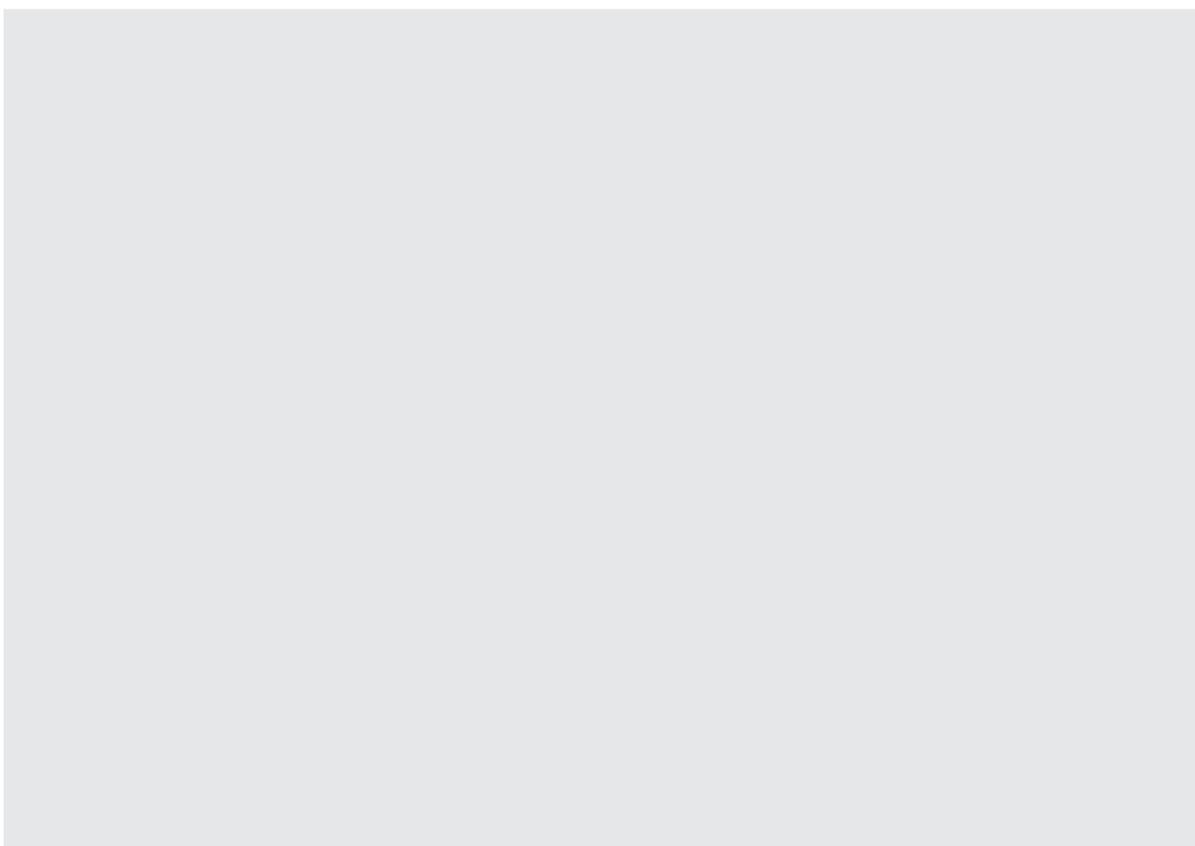
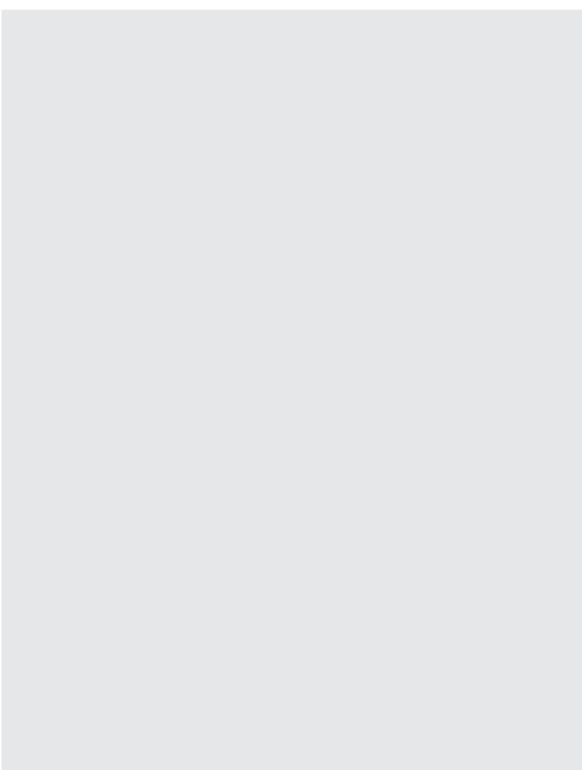
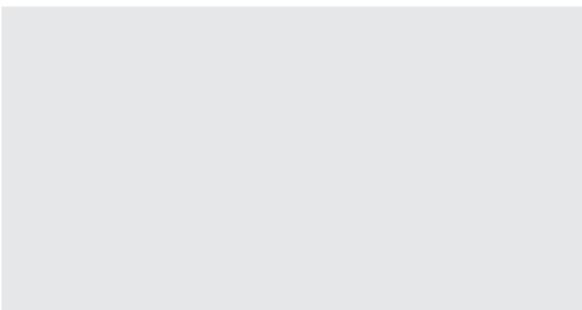
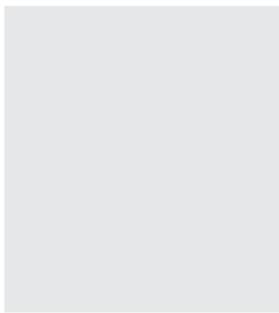
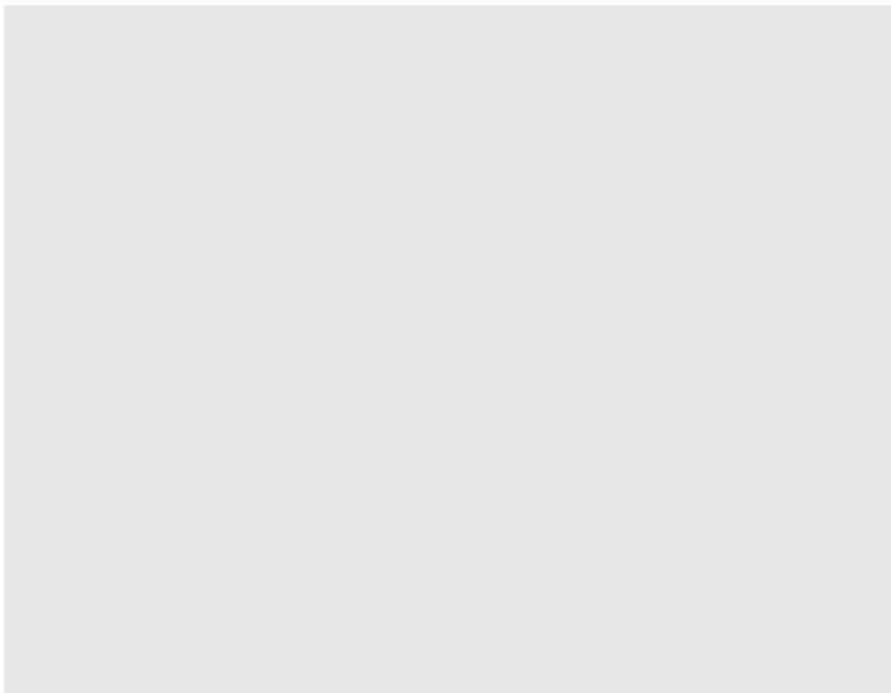
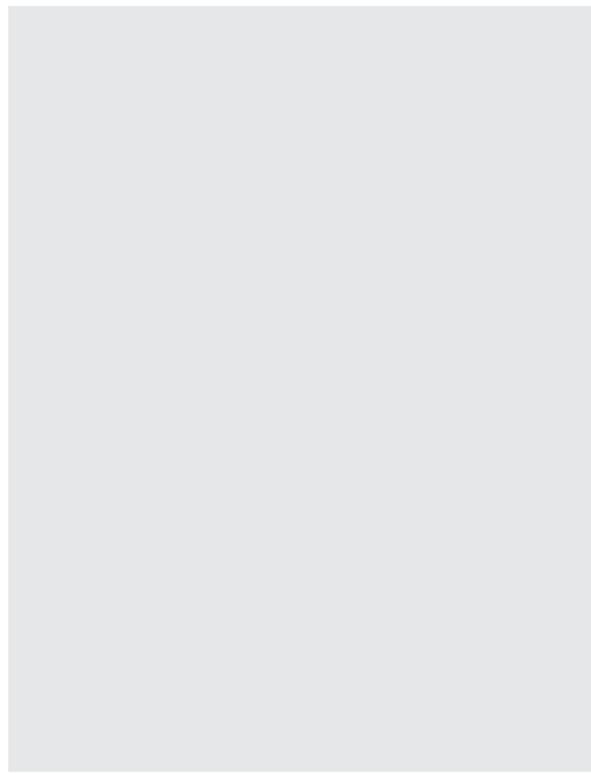
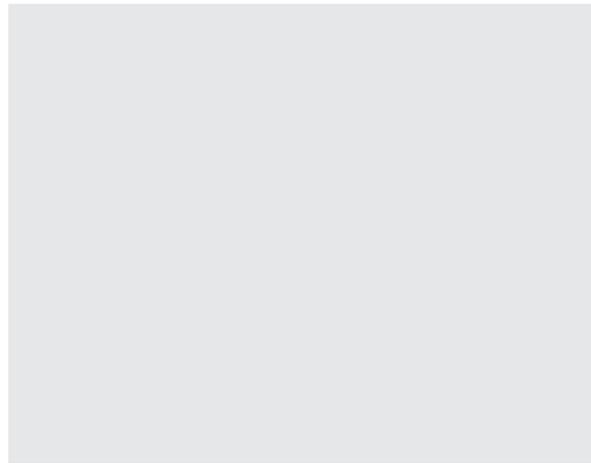
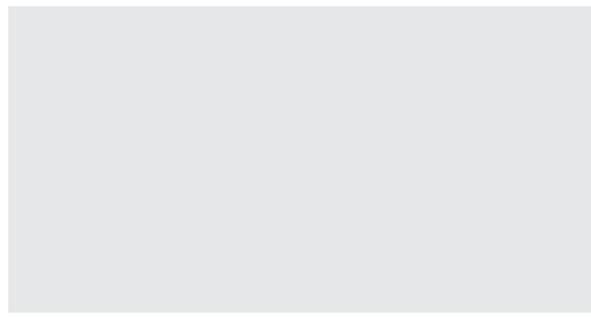


U.S. Air Force photos by Tech. Sgt. Sean Dolney

Above, Senior Master Sgt. Daniel Alaniz works on one of the Habitat for Humanity houses. About 10 military members from Robins began helping the nonprofit organization build homes for two families in August. Below, Tech. Sgt. Dennis Perine works on one of the Habitat for Humanity houses.

executive director, said his organization is appreciative of the hours Robins' military have donated to building the homes.

The two homes are expected to be complete by early May.



Getting back to nature

Earth Day activities help community learn importance of caring for environment

By Holly L. Birchfield
holly.birchfield@robins.af.mil

With a host of activities ranging from a fishing rodeo that had families catching the idea of environmental awareness to a Historic Forest Tree Planting ceremony that gave people the chance to give life to the memories of those who have died, Robins has turned today's observance of Earth Day into a month-long celebration.

Steve Coyle, Environmental Management chief, said the base's events carry important messages for everyone.

"Earth Day's activities are focused on the celebration of life - mankind living in harmony with our surroundings - a clean and healthy environment in which to live and work," he said.



Jim Reese is a 78th Engineer Group environmental engineer and 2005 Earth Day Committee chairman, agreed and said taking care of the environment is an everyday job.

"The new idea in the Air Force and the Department of Defense is sustainability," he said. "We want these installations to be around for a very long time. Just like your house, if you let garbage pile up, pretty soon, you can't live there anymore. You've got to get things out [and take care of the environment around us], so we can continue our mission of supporting the war fighter, without degrading the environment."

Robins sponsored activities such as a fishing rodeo, a tree planting ceremony in the base's historic forest, bird watching, a tree adoption program and a golf tournament to provide people with fun ways to learn the importance of improving the world around them.

Marilyn DeMetrick, a natural resource consultant here, coordinated this year's Historic Forest Tree Planting ceremony and the Adopt-a-Tree Program.

"Trees are important to our environment," she said. "They're what provide our oxygen. They clean our atmosphere



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

and give us air to breathe. Our trees are a very important resource for helping the environment."

Robins has provided environmental education to school-

age children throughout the month, and will team up with the Keep Warner Robins Beautiful to clean up the one-mile Wellston Trail Greenway April 30.

Krista Folsom, a 78th CEG Web and graphics designer, said people need to learn to recycle, reduce and reuse materials for a better future.

"We're not trying to change people's minds for a week or a month," she said. "We want people to develop a new mindset that Earth Day is every day."

Mr. Reese said everyone needs to take part in caring for the environment.

"It's important to teach people that little things they do affect the environment," he said. "If everybody does a little bit, they can accomplish a lot."

Miss Folsom, who is coordinating the Decorate a Grocery Bag program with bags provided by a local grocery store, said the program will get children from the base involved in the environmental education effort.

"The bags have been deco-



Above, Josh McGehee, 10, attaches artificial bait to his line at the Fishing Rodeo Saturday. Left, Steve and Heather Zimmie tried their luck at catching fish from a canoe.

rated by Robins Elementary School students, and they're on display in the environmental management division area for anyone who wants to vote on them," she said. "We'll be choosing first, second and third place winners and announce them during a ceremony at the school. The grand prize winner's design will be used for next year's Earth Day T-shirt design."

"It's important to teach people that little things they do affect the environment. If everybody does a little bit, they can accomplish a lot."

JIM REESE

2005 Earth Day Committee chairman

Fishing Rodeo winners

- Casting Kids Event
 - 1st - **Riley Roberson**, ages 7-10 category
 - 2nd - **Ricky Wiggins**, ages 11-14 category
 - Most fish caught (ages 13 and older):
 - 1st - **Troy A. Taylor** (nine fish)
 - 2nd - **Amanda Solomon**
 - 3rd - **Brian Geoffre**
 - Most fish caught (ages 12 and younger):
 - 1st - **Ricky Wiggins** (seven)
 - 2nd - **Jessica Dickens**
 - 3rd - **Mya Sheridan**
 - Biggest fish (ages 13 and older):
 - 1st - **Derrick Nelson**
 - 2nd - **Chanel Baldwin**
 - 3rd - **Dustin Howard**
 - Biggest fish (ages 12 and younger):
 - 1st - **Mallory Adams**
 - 2nd - **Kaylin Blood**
 - 3rd - **Scott Dickens**

Earth Day events

Dormitory landscaping project

Friday and Saturday: Buildings 758 and 759. For more information, call Kim Baker at 926-1295. Paper Bag Art Contest Awards Ceremony

T-shirt contest

Monday: 8:40 - 9:25 a.m. at Robins Elementary School. Winning entry will be printed on Earth Day 2006 T-shirts. For more information, call Krista Folsom at 926-1197 extension 109.

Wellston Trail Greenway (Bay Gall Creek) Cleanup

April 30: 9 a.m. - Meet at Fountain Park on Kimberly Road. Park cleanup with Keep Warner Robins Beautiful and AFRC/CEV. For more information, call Shan Harris at 926-1197 extension 111.

Adopt-a-Tree

If anyone is interested in adopting a tree through the Adopt-a-Tree program, contact Marilyn DeMetrick, a natural resource consultant with the 78th Civil Engineer Squadron's Environmental Management Division, at 926-1197 ext. 174. For more information, visit www.robins.af.mil/em/earthday2005.html.



Mya Sheridan, 4, watches as her dad, Rob, takes the fish she caught off her pole. Mya won third place for most fish caught in the ages 12 and younger category.

ROBINS BULLETIN BOARD

To have an item listed in the bulletin board, send it to Angela Trunzo at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil by 4 p.m. Monday prior to the Friday of intended publication.

BIG luncheon

The Middle Georgia Chapter of Blacks in Government will host its annual recognition luncheon at 11:30 a.m. today at the Enlisted Club. Tickets are \$10. The event will recognize military and civilian employees who are unsung heroes that have made positive and effective contributions in support of the mission here at Robins. For more information, contact Katie Largent at 926-6122.

Quarterly ALC awards ceremony

Maj. Gen. Mike Collings, Center commander, will host the quarterly ALC awards ceremony Monday at 1 p.m. at the Base Theater. Commanders, supervisors, family members and friends are encouraged to attend. Show your unit's pride and spirit; come and join us in

congratulating our nominees and winners. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Sharon Ward at 926-0792.

CGOA meeting

The Company Grade Officers Association will meet Thursday at the Officers' Club's Wellston at 4 p.m. Elections will be held to fill positions being departed by several board members who are deploying or PCSing. Nominations will be accepted through close of business Tuesday. Send nominations to 1st Lt Allison Guillaume at allison.guillaume@garobiaf.mil.

78th ABW Enlisted Promotion ceremony

Col. Greg Patterson, 78th Air Base Wing commander, will host the monthly 78th Air Base Wing Enlisted Promotion ceremony April 29 at 3:30 p.m. at the Base Theater. Those being recognized will be notified by their respective First Sergeants. Commanders, supervisors, family members and friends are encouraged to attend. Show your unit's pride and spirit; come and join us in congratulating our new promotees. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Sharon Ward at 926-0792.

lating our new promotees. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Sharon Ward at 926-0792.

Scholarship, leadership award

The Carl Vinson Chapter of the Air Force Association is now accepting applications for the Sherrill Stafford Leadership Development Award and Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship can be used to defray education expenses as well as tuition. The deadline for applications is May 1. All interested applicants should contact the Base Education Office at 327-7325.

Protestant religious education coordinator

Contract position for the Protestant Religious Education Coordinator is open for bids. For a statement of work, stop by the Base Chapel and speak with the noncommissioned officer in charge, Staff Sgt. Braderick Adams, or call 926-2821. Bids and resumes must be submitted to the chapel by close of business May 3. Bids will be open at 10:30 a.m. May 5.

Military Appreciation Night

The Macon Knights, local arena football team, will hold a Military Appreciation Night at 7:30 p.m. May 7.

Deployed Families Bowling Day

The Family Support Center is holding a Deployed Families Bowling Day from 2 - 4 p.m. May 8, at the Robins Bowling Center. The free event is open to families of deployed military. Families must register for the event by May 6. For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Michael Bullard at 926-3453.

Camellia Gardens Memorial Service

The annual Camellia Gardens Memorial Service that pays tribute to deceased members of Team Robins will be May 26 at 10 a.m. in the garden across from the Officers' Club. Diane Gross, project officer, will accept submissions for people to be memorialized this year through today. Honorees can be civilian or military members. For information, contact Ms. Gross at 926-6203 or diane.gross@robins.af.mil.

SERVICES BRIEFS

Aero Club

Private pilot ground school registration will be held Monday - May 2 from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. School starts May 2 at 5:30 p.m. One-hundred percent tuition is available for active duty military. Cost is \$340 for tuition and \$235 for books and flight bag and is due at the time of registration. For more information, call 926-4867 and register soon because classroom seating is limited.

Enlisted Club

A Texas Hold 'Em tournament will be held Sunday with a practice and warm-up sessions from 2 - 2:45 p.m., sign-ups starting at 2:45 p.m. and games starting at 3 p.m. Prizes to be given to the winners of the first round session and first through eighth places of the final round. The tournament is limited to the first 64 players. Cost is \$5 members and \$10 nonmembers. For more information call 926-4515.

Information, Tickets and Travel

Wild Adventure season passes are available for \$60 and includes general

admission to concerts. Parking passes are also available for \$22. Upcoming concerts include Switchfoot April 30 and Gary Allan and Chris Cagle May 7.

ITT has a limited supply of tickets for the May 1 NASCAR Aaron's 499 at the Talladega Super Speedway in Talladega, Ala. Tickets are \$55 for the Gadsden section for the Sunday race only.

Officers' Club

Meet the new manager Rick Hatfield and chef Calvin Clark Thursday from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Enjoy complimentary champagne and hors d'oeuvres.

Pizza Depot

April is the month of the child and each week Pizza Depot will hold drawings in celebration of families and children. Congratulations go to Tech. Sgt. Michael J. Walker, 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron, the winner of the digital camera for the first week's drawing. Saturday-Thursday, enter for a chance to win a picnic package: a cool-

er, folding chair, beach ball, beach towel and more, with a drawing April 29.

Pizza Depot customers may receive an entry form with a minimum purchase of \$4. No limit to the number of entry forms entered. Entry forms will not carry over to the following week's drawing. No purchase is necessary for customers who fill out an index card with contact information and deliver it to Marketing and Publicity, 755 Warner Robins Street, Robins AFB GA 31098-1469 one day prior to the drawings. For more information, call Pizza Depot at 926-0188.

Skills Development Center

The center will hold classes in water-color animals Monday from noon - 2 p.m., cost \$10; calligraphy Thursday from 10 - 11 a.m., cost \$10; scratch board art Monday from 10 - 11:30 a.m., cost \$10; sewing Wednesday from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m., cost \$12.50; tote bag quilting Thursday from 5 - 7 p.m., cost \$12.50; scroll saw Wednesday from 6 - 8 p.m., cost \$10; auto shop safety and orientation every Wednesday at 6 p.m.

and every Saturday at 11 a.m. free of charge. Registration and payment is required for all classes. Class space is limited. All classes are subject to change and do not include supply and equipment costs. For more information, call 926-5282.

Smith Community Center

Bring the family to the movie in the park tonight at 8 (or dark) to watch "Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang" at Robins Park. Participants may bring lawn chairs and blankets. Cost is free and concessions will be available. This is a 3C event and everyone will receive pogs. For more information, call Lynne Brackett at 926-2105.

Bring the family to family bingo Monday at the center. Doors open at 5 p.m., and games start at 6 p.m. This is a 3C event.

A table tennis tournament will be held Tuesday with matches starting at 5:30 p.m. in the community center ballroom. Sign up by Monday.

LEAVE/TRANSFER

The following people have been approved as participants in the leave transfer program.

Carol Bales, WR-ALC/FMAI. Point of contact is Sallie Dwight at 222-2331.

Carolyn A. Buckles, 78th LRS/LGRDMC. Point of contact is Radena Lane at 926-3727.

Deborah Peterman, 78th CEG/CEVR. Point of contact is Fred Hursey at 926-1197 extension 152.

Mary Sue Trussell, 78thSS/DPCLB. Point of contact is Vickie Lacey at 926-0677.

Employee-relations specialists at 926-5307 or 926-5802 have information and instructions concerning requests to

receive or donate annual leave. To have an approved leave recipient printed in the Rev-Up, directorates should send information to Angela Trunzo at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil. Submissions run for two weeks.

CHAPEL SERVICES

Catholic

Catholic masses are held at the chapel each Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 9:30 a.m., on Holy Days of Obligation at noon and at a 5 p.m. vigil the day before, and Monday through Friday at noon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is Saturday from 4:30-5:15 p.m.

Islamic

Islamic Friday Prayer (Jumuah) is Fridays at 2 p.m. in the chapel annex rooms 1 and 2.

Jewish

Jewish service is Fridays at 6:15 p.m. at the Macon synagogue.

Orthodox Christian

St. Innocent Orthodox Church service is at the chapel on the second Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m.

Protestant

General services take place Sundays at 11 a.m. The service includes some traditional and contemporary worship styles in music and format. Protestant inspirational services take place Sundays at 8 a.m. Contemporary services take place 11 a.m. Sundays at the Base Theater. This service is informal and includes traditional and contemporary styles of music and worship.

The chapel helps with spiritual needs that arise. For further information, call the chapel at 926-2821.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Fitness Center

An ultimate Frisbee tournament is scheduled for Saturday at 11 a.m. Teams will consist of seven members. Sign up at the fitness center. This is a 3C event.

Letters of intent for softball are due by April 29 at the fitness center.

Golf Course

During April, golfers will save money when they pay their annual green fees in advance. Family, senior and junior plans are available as well as monthly payment plans.

An after school junior golf academy will be held Tuesday through Thursday for ages 10-12. Cost is \$45 and will be held from 4 - 5:15 p.m. Register at the pro shop.

A ladies social golf league will be held Mondays with tee times between 5 - 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$7 per person. Nine holes of golf and tees will be moved up

to shorten the course and increase the fun.

Golf tournaments

The 19th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron will host a golf tournament April 29 at 11:30 a.m. at the Landings Golf Course, 309 Stathams Way, Warner Robins. Cost is \$40 per person and includes lunch, drink and range balls. For more information, contact Staff Sgt. David Algire at 327-4055.

The Middle Georgia Logistics Officer Association golf tournament will be April 29 at the Pine Oaks Golf Course. Shotgun start is 1 p.m. Cost is \$40 per person and includes green fee, lunch and range balls. There will be a best ball tourney with prizes for the top three teams and longest drive/closest pin. Raffle tickets will be available for \$1. Three feet of "short putt" string will be available for \$3, with a limit of one per player. There will also be mulligans for sale for \$2 each or three for \$5, with a limit of three per player. For more information, contact Capt. John Nolan at 926-7615 or Capt. Jeremiah McBride at 926-4711.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

Family Support Center sponsored classes, workshops, and seminars are open to all Team Robins personnel. For more information or to make a reservation, call 926-1256.

Job fair

The FSC and Georgia Department of Labor will host a job fair May 20, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., at the Museum of Aviation, Century of Flight Hangar. More than 50 employers are expected to attend.

Pre-deployment briefings

Pre-deployment briefings are offered at 9 a.m. Mondays and Fridays in Building 945, FSC annex. For more information, call 926-3453.

Career focus

Military spouses and family members, and dis-

placed civilian personnel can improve job search skills, and increase opportunities for employment or a career change. For more information, call 926-1256.

Airman's attic

The Airmen's Attic supports junior enlisted members that are establishing a household. E-4s and below are encouraged to visit the attic to find items to help defray the cost of setting up an apartment or home. Items usually available include kitchenware, small appliances, decorative items, children's clothing, toys and military uniforms. Larger items are passed on to junior enlisted members by way of a "Wish List."

Morale call program

Standard morale calls are conducted over the

The Maj. Gen. Joseph A. McNeil Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen Inc. will host its second annual golf tournament April 30. The tournament will be held at the Waterford Golf Course, with check in at 11 a.m. and lunch at noon. There will be a shotgun start at 2 p.m. The purpose of the tournament is to raise funds for Flight of Eagles program, which provides advance training for seventh and eighth graders in math and science. For more information, contact T.J. Bradford at 329-9935 or Jeanette McElhaney at 397-0212.

Outdoor Recreation

Swim lesson registration will begin May 18 at equipment rental, Building 914, with lessons at the Crestview pool. Classes will be held June 7 - 17, June 21 - July 1, July 5 - 15 and July 19 - 29. Cost for "Mommy & Me" toddler class (ages 2 and 3) is \$30 per child. For beginner, intermediate and advanced classes (ages 4 -13), the cost is \$40 per child. All fees are due at time of registration. For more information, call 926-4001.

DSN with a regular telephone. The military member provides the DSN number, where he or she is located, to the family member. The family member calls the FSC at 926-1256 to receive a control number. Once a convenient time for both the military member and the family member is chosen, the family member calls the base operator at 926-1110 to make the morale call. Please choose a time wherein both parties can complete the entire 15-minute conversation within one call. The videophone morale call must be conducted at the Family Support Center. Videophone Morale Calls are made using the VIATV system.

Transition assistance

The Transition Assistance Program ensures active duty personnel are prepared to separate from the military. Classes are offered throughout the year.

MOVIE SCHEDULE

Adult tickets are \$3.50; children (11 years old and younger) tickets are \$2. For more information, call the Base Theater at 926-2919.

Today 7:30 p.m. - The Ring 2 - Naomi Watts and Simon Baker

Naomi Watts reprises her role as Rachel Keller, who moves to Astoria, Ore., with her son, Aidan, to escape their memories of what happened in Seattle. When a few locals start dying and a strange videotape reappears, Rachel becomes aware that the creepy Samara is back and after Aidan.

Rated PG-13 (thematic elements, disturbing images, language) 107 minutes

Saturday 6:30 p.m. - Ice Princess - Michelle Trachtenberg and Joan Cusack

Casey has never quite fit in. Caught between her fantasy of becoming a championship figure skater and her strong-willed mother, who has her on the fast track to Harvard, she can only hope to be like three elite skating prodigies. She takes on the challenge of her life when she finds herself competing against the best to make it into the championship circuit and become a real "ice princess."

Rated G (General Audiences) 98 minutes

COMING SOON
April 29 - Hostage - Bruce Willis and Kevin Pollak
April 30 - Robots - animated with voices of Halle Berry and Robin Williams

May 6 - Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous - Sandra Bullock and Regina King
May 7 - Guess Who - Bernie Mac and Ashton Kutcher



Base Legal Office reminds Airmen of their rights under Servicemembers Civil Relief Act

By 78th Air Base Wing Office of Public Affairs

According to Base Legal Office personnel, recent changes to the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act, or SSCRA, of 1940, offer protections to all servicemembers that Robins Airmen should be aware of.

Debby Stone, chief of legal assistance, said the new act, known as the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, was signed into law by President George Bush in December 2003, and clarifies and strengthens the rights and protections provided to military service personnel.

"The SCRA's coverage includes servicemembers' financial obligations and liabilities, such as rent, installment contracts and leases; civil (but not criminal) legal proceedings; life insurance and taxes," she said.

The changes, which can render aid to servicemembers in a wide variety of personal situations, range from the right to terminate leases to income tax protection.

"The SCRA takes significant steps to broaden and clarify the civil protections afforded to military members by suspending enforcement of certain civil liabilities," said Ms. Stone. "The notification requirements ensure that service members are aware of their protections and the methods to exercise these protections."

The most significant changes include the following:

Automatic stay of proceedings. The SCRA provides for an automatic, non-discretionary 90-day stay of civil proceedings upon application of the servicemember. The application does not constitute an appearance. To obtain the automatic stay, a servicemember must demonstrate there is a material effect and provide the court a date when he or she will be available. The servicemember must also submit a letter from his or her commander stating that duty prevents the member from appearing in

court and that military leave is not authorized. Additional stays are permitted if the above requirements are met; however, these additional stays are at the court's discretion. Previously, all stays were discretionary with the courts.

Six percent interest cap. The 6 percent interest rate cap for obligations and liabilities of servicemembers incurred before military service results in a reduction of monthly payments. Any interest in excess of the 6 percent cap is forgiven. This is consistent with the SCRA's objective of reducing monthly obligations for mobilized National Guard or Reserve members who may have a reduced income. Although this provision was contained in the SSCRA, ambiguities resulted in inconsistent interpretations regarding the application of the interest cap. The new language clarifies that the 6 percent cap is mandatory and that any interest amounts in excess of 6 percent are forgiven.

Protection against eviction. A servicemember, or his dependents, who enters into a lease of premises, that are occupied as a primary residence or intended to be occupied as a primary residence, in an amount of \$2,400 or less a month, cannot be evicted without court order. Upon application by a landlord for an eviction order, the court shall, if a request is made by or on behalf of a servicemember whose ability to pay the agreed rent is materially affected by military service, stay the proceedings for 90 days unless, in the opinion of the court, justice and equity require a longer or shorter period of time. Previously, the maximum rent for eviction protection was \$1,200 a month.

Right to terminate residential leases. An active duty servicemember who has received permanent change of station orders or who is being deployed for not less than 90 days may terminate a housing lease with 30 days written notice. Previously, a service-

What to know

If you think someone is violating rights given you by the SCRA, contact Stephanie Zoumberis in the Base Legal Office at 222-0561 to make an appointment to see an Air Force attorney.

member could be obligated to pay rent for housing he or she is unable to occupy because of a government-required move.

Right to terminate automobile leases. Individuals who execute a lease and then enter military service under a call or order of not less than 180 days may terminate an automobile lease. Active duty servicemembers who execute a lease while in military service and receive permanent change of station orders outside the continental United States or deploy for not less than 180 days may terminate an automobile lease. The member must provide written notice of termination to the lessee and return the vehicle within 15 days of the written notice. Previously, there was no right to terminate automobile leases.

Installment contract protection. Motor vehicles fall within the umbrella of installment contract protections. If a military member falls behind on car payments, the lessor must obtain a court order before repossessing the car. Previously, no court order was required to repossess an automobile. This provision applies only to contracts for which a deposit or installment payment was made by the servicemember prior to the time the servicemember entered military service.

Life insurance. Level of coverage of life insurance for protection against the lapse of life insurance policies when an individual enters military service or deploys is increased from \$10,000 to \$250,000 or the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance maximum, whichever is greater.

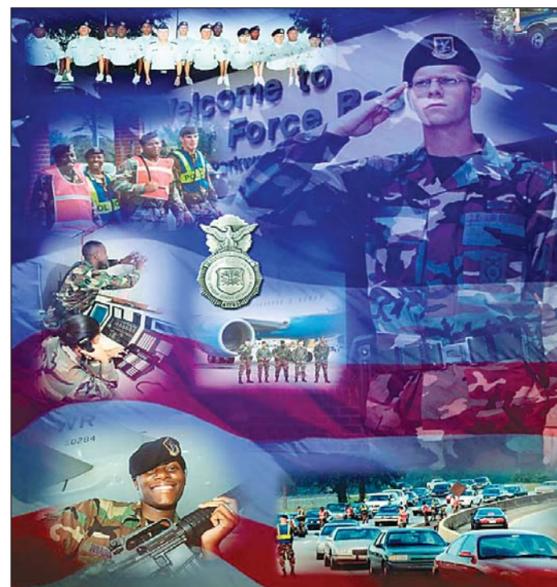
Residence for tax purposes. A tax jurisdiction may not use the military compensation

of a non-resident servicemember to increase the tax liability imposed on other income earned by the non-resident servicemember or spouse subject to tax by the jurisdiction. Some 19 states have followed this approach, which is known as the "Kansas Rule" or the "California Method." The SCRA prohibits this practice for all "open cases" as of the statute's effective date of Dec. 19, 2003. The Armed Forces Tax Council is engaging with each of the affected states to ensure compliance for 2003 income tax returns and for previous years' returns still subject to amendment by the taxpayer under the state's relevant statute of limitations. Thus, military personnel may be able to amend state returns and receive refunds of higher state taxes paid due to use of the "Kansas Rule" or the "California Method" as far back as three or four years, depending on the particular state's limitation period for amending returns.

Income tax protection. The collection of income tax on the income of a servicemember falling due before or during military service shall be deferred for a period not more than 180 days after termination of or release from military service if a servicemember's ability to pay such income tax is materially affected by military service. No interest or penalty shall accrue for the period of deferment by reason of nonpayment on any amount of deferred tax. The servicemember must notify the IRS and/or the tax authority of the State that he or she is unable to pay the income tax as a result of military service.

Notification requirements. The secretary concerned shall ensure that notice of the benefits accorded by this act is provided in writing to persons in military service and to persons entering military service.

SFS tip of the week



U.S. Air Force graphic

Entry authority list for events held on base is mandatory

By Staff Sgt. Jonathan M. Kennedy
78th Security Forces Squadron

Robins Air Force Base offers numerous places to hold an event. Whether it be a family reunion at the Lodge or a wedding reception at the Officers' Club, Robins has plenty of places to have a function.

Besides reserving the spot for the event Security Forces has to allow entry for the attendees, and to do that they need an entry authority list.

If you are planning an event on base with six or more guests that don't have independent access to the base, an entry authority list will have to be generated and provided to the 78th Security Forces Squadron at least two weeks prior to the event. That list must be typed and contain the following information:

- Alphabetized names, last name, then first name of each visitor

- Children's names should be indicated by writing

"child" next to their name

- Start and end time of the event

- Date and location of the event

- Name of the event

- Phone numbers for the sponsor of the event

After completing the list, the sponsor will hand carry three copies to the Police Services section located inside of Building 263 at 250 Peacekeeper Way. The entry authority list will be forwarded to the 78th Mission Support Group commander for review and approval. All approved lists will be hand carried to the main gate by a member of the Police Services section one duty day prior to the event.

Additions to the list can be made up to one duty day prior to the event to allow for any changes to the list. For more information regarding entry authority lists or responsibilities of being a sponsor, contact Police Services at DSN 472-1991/1992/1993 or 222-1991/1992/1993.

Aircraft lighter ban also applies to servicemembers

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFP) – Anyone – including servicemembers – carrying lighters will be required to surrender them at U.S. airport security checkpoints before boarding aircraft under a new federal law that became effective April 14, Transportation Security Administration officials said.

The new law also applies to military and civilian passengers on commercially chartered U.S. military overseas flights, said Army Lt. Col. Scott Ross, a spokesman with U.S. Transportation Command at Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

Because of al-Qaida efforts to create improvised explosive devices, “prohibiting lighters onboard aircraft and in the sterile areas of airports will reduce

current security vulnerabilities and add another layer of defense,” a TSA document stated.

President Bush signed the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 on Dec. 17, 2004. The act mandates that butane lighters be added to the list of items prohibited from being carried aboard aircraft arriving or departing at U.S. commercial airports.

The new law applies to “anything that produces a flame,” including Zippo brand and other lighters, said TSA spokesman Chris Jolma. However, aircraft passengers may still carry up to four books of matches.

The law also bans lighters from being placed in carry-on luggage or cargo baggage, according to the TSA.

“Wherever there’s a TSA (security) checkpoint, we’re responsible for enforcing the law,” Mr. Jolma said. “Folks should definitely inspect their baggage before going to the airport, just to avoid the hassle.”

On Dec. 22, 2001, passengers aboard American Airlines Flight 63 en route from Paris to Miami stopped British citizen Richard Reid from lighting a fuse attached to an explosive hidden inside his sneakers.

The self-confessed al-Qaida sympathizer was later convicted in a U.S. federal court of trying to blow up the plane. He is now serving a life sentence.

Mr. Jolma said the failed attempt to bring down Flight 63 alerted U.S. authorities of the need to tighten up airline security. And, he said, global terrorists continue to look for “innovative means” to bring down aircraft.

Language skills latest weapon in America’s 21st century arsenal

By Terri Lukach
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFP) – Despite the tremendous advances in military hardware and technology on display in the war on terrorism, there are still some capabilities only humans can provide.

That was the thinking behind a new initiative to improve foreign language and cultural expertise at the Defense Department, said a top department official who stressed the importance of language in worldwide military operations.

“Language has always been important in the Department of Defense,” Dr. David S.C. Chu said, “but it is particularly important now, because we are operating in parts of the world where English is not widely spoken, where we need to work with local leaders and local populations, and where we need to understand more about their culture.”

Dr. Chu is undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

“We simply must develop a greater capacity for languages that reflect the demands of this century,” Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said in announcing the Defense Language Transformation Roadmap on March 30. “No technology delivers this capability; it is a truly human skill that our forces must have to win, and that we must have to keep the peace.”

The roadmap “is a commitment to our men and women that they will have that skill and ability,” Secretary Rumsfeld said

Translators acting as go-

between are not the whole solution, Dr. Chu said.

“We need to communicate better,” he said, “and while you can always do that through translators, a great deal, as we used to say, gets ‘lost in translation.’”

Dr. Chu praised the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, Calif., for instilling a good reading and listening capacity in its foreign-language students in a year to 18 months.

“It’s a terrific program,” he said, “but, it’s not enough. It doesn’t take people as far as we now need them to go.”

Department officials are beginning a new effort to broaden language competency within the military ranks and challenge more officers and enlisted people to develop language skills, Dr. Chu said.

He said the program has four primary goals:

■ Broaden the linguistic and cultural knowledge base in the uniformed and civilian ranks.

■ Develop the ability to respond quickly to crisis requirements.

■ Produce a cadre of linguists proficient at a much higher level.

■ Develop a database of linguists and their levels of competence so that when there is a need the talent can be brought to bear.

In the past, linguistic and cultural expertise were not regarded as warfighting skills, and thus were not sufficiently incorporated into operational or contingency planning, Dr. Chu said. That is not the case today.

Besides the possibility of conflict against enemies who speak less commonly taught languages, the new roadmap

outlines several other reasons for an increased foreign-linguist capacity in DoD:

■ Robust language and foreign expertise are critical to sustaining coalitions, pursuing regional stability and conducting multinational operations.

■ Changes in the international security environment, as well as the range of potential conflict zones, expand the number of likely partners with whom U.S. forces will work.

■ The U.S. military’s new global footprint and transition to a more expeditionary force will bring increased requirements for foreign languages and regional knowledge.

■ Adversaries who attempt to manipulate the media leverage sympathetic elements of a population or politicians to divide international coalitions.

While technology, including language technology, is helpful, Dr. Chu said “technology will never replace a smart human being.”

“Today’s Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines,” he said, “are so much smarter than ever before. At the same time, we are asking a lot more of them. And we recognize that that young corporal on the line in Iraq is making decisions that affect the foreign policy of the United States, and if we can give him or her a little bit of an edge – linguistically – (he or she is) going to be far more effective.”

Dr. Chu said he would like to encourage all young people to think about language as a skill – a skill they can acquire.

“And it’s a warfighting skill, a skill we need in the theater. It’s important that we not only acquire it, but keep it sharp over time,” he said.

Making the pass



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Sean Mateo White

OVER MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds perform an echelon pass here April 7. While performing the pass the F-16 Fighting Falcons fly between 18 and 24 inches apart at an average of 400 mph. Upcoming stops on their 2005 schedule include Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., Saturday; Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., Sunday; and Fort Lauderdale, Fla., April 30.

It's a challenge



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp

The winner of the 3C Challenge-large unit trophy is the 78th Logistics Readiness Squadron. The traveling trophy was presented April 14. From left are Col. Silvia Anderson, 78th Mission Support Group commander, James F. Elliott, 8th LRS program analyst, Tech. Sgt. Michael McKiver, unit representative, Lt. Col. Thomas Schneider, 78th LRS commander, and Lynne Brackett, Smith Community Center director. The 3 Cs stand for commitment, camaraderie and cohesiveness. According to Ms. Brackett the program is loosely based on the commander's trophy points concept where groups and squadrons receive points for winning various events. In the 3C Challenge teams receive pogs, which are small plastic coins, just for participation and even more if you place first, second or third in the competitions. The squadron collecting the most pogs in a quarter wins a traveling trophy and base-wide recognition. The games are structured to reach a wide range of people and open to military, civilians and contractors



The 78th Operations Support Squadron is the winner of the 3C Challenge-small unit trophy.

Air Force Academy selected as 'Best Value College'

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. (AFP) – The U.S. Air Force Academy is one of the nation's "best value" undergraduate institutions, according to a Princeton Review report.

The New York-based education services company announced Monday that it chose the academy as one of 81 schools it recommends in the new 2006 edition of its book, America's Best Value Colleges.

The book is a guide to colleges with outstanding academics, generous financial aid packages and relatively low costs, according to the announcement. It includes public and private colleges and universities in 35 states.

The Princeton Review selected the schools for this book based on data the company obtained from administrators at more than 350 colleges,

and surveys of students attending them.

Officials used more than 30 factors to rate the colleges including academics, tuition, grade point average, how well colleges meet students' financial needs and student borrowing, said Robert Franek, the company's vice president of publishing.

The book provides three-page profiles on the colleges, advice about applying for admission and financial aid, and a ranking list of the "Top 10 Best Value Colleges" overall.

More than 9,400 people have applied for one of the 1,300 spots for the academy's next freshman class. Basic cadet training begins for them June 30.

For more information about the academy, visit www.academyadmissions.com.

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Doggie

do's and don'ts

According to Tech. Sgt. Tina Russell, 78th Security Forces Squadron noncommissioned officer in charge of Police Services, the rules and regulations for pet owners on base are clearly outlined in the RAFB Instruction 48-131, Aerospace Medicine; Animal Control and Military Family Housing Brochure RAFBPAM 32-6001.

■ Housing residents may have two pets. Pit Bulls or wolf crosses are not authorized.

■ Pets (dogs/cats) will be leashed when outside of your home or a fenced yard.

■ Dogs and cats kept in family housing must have a current rabies vaccination

and be registered on base.

■ Incoming personnel are required to register their animals within 14 days of arrival on base. To register pets, take a current rabies vaccination certificate to Veterinary Services, Building. 703. Questions may be addressed to Veterinary Services at 327-8448.

■ Pets are not allowed to have access to the following areas: dining halls, cafeterias, clubs, Base Exchange, dormitories, Center headquarters, medical/dental centers, guest house, recreational sports areas (tennis, golf, bowling, swimming, running tracks and others), places of public assembly (playgrounds, public build-

ings, theaters and others), or similar places where food is prepared or served.

This does not apply to seeing-eye dogs accompanying owners with visual handicaps or military working dogs.

■ Failure to control pets will subject owners to disciplinary action, which means they can be charged with "failure to control pet." Punishment is left to their commander's discretion.

■ If a pet owner fails to maintain current vaccinations, immunizations or proper identification it can be grounds for the pet's removal from the base.

— Lanorris Askew

Chatting on Air Force Portal requires decorum

Recent inappropriate comments made by some Airmen in chat rooms using Air Force Portal's instant messaging service has led officials to clarify responsible communication over the service.

"The majority of the 7,000 plus Airmen using (Air Force Instant Messenger) in a given week are using it exactly as it was intended," said Maj. David Gindhart, Air Staff lead for the portal. "Unfortunately, a small group of individuals forgot that our core values, military decorum and professionalism still apply when in a chat room."

Officials in the Air Force chief information office recently

defined inappropriate use and clarified chat guidelines. Inappropriate use includes sexual harassment, sexually explicit, or racist dialogue. In addition, while the instant messenger supports informal dialogue, the Air Force military rank structure establishes expectations for leader responsibility and accountability.

Certain controls and conditions have also been added, officials said. A warning banner reminds Airmen they have no expectation of privacy and use of the system is consent to monitoring.

Chats may be logged, creating an official record. A self-

monitoring system allows users to report misuse, but other forms of monitoring will take place, officials said.

Besides defining inappropriate use, officials listed specific prohibitions:

■ Activity that causes system degradation.

■ Inappropriate or offensive material.

■ Illegal activities.

■ Sexually explicit or sexually oriented material.

■ Business, fundraising, lobbying or political activities.

■ Abuse of intellectual property rights.

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